

2005 SUPERINTENDENT'S COMPENDIUM

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APPROVED: /s/ Thomas A. Bradley 05/01/2005
Superintendent Date

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INTRODUCTION

A. What is the Superintendent's Compendium?

The St. Croix National Scenic Riverway Superintendent's Compendium is the summary of park specific rules implemented under the discretionary authority of the park Superintendent. It serves as public notice with an opportunity for public comment, identifies areas closed for public use, provides a list of activities requiring either a special use permit or reservation, and elaborates on those public use and resource protection regulations that pertain to the specific administration of the park. It does not contain those regulations found in 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and other United States Codes (U.S.C.) and CFR Titles which are enforced without further elaboration at the park level.

The regulations contained in 36 CFR Parts 1-7 are the basic mechanism used by the National Park Service (NPS) to preserve and protect the natural and cultural resources of the park and to protect visitors and property within the park. Parts 1 through 6 are general regulations applicable to all areas of the National Park System, and Part 7 contains special regulations specific to individual parks. Each of these Parts has many sections and subsections articulating specific provisions. Within some of these Part 1-7 sections and subsections, the Superintendent is granted discretionary authority to develop local rules to be responsive to the needs of a specific park resource or activity, park plan, program, and/or special needs of the general public.

As an example, 36 CFR 1.5(a) *Closures and Public Use Limits* provides the Superintendent certain discretion in allowing or disallowing certain activities. The authority granted by this Section, however, requires the Superintendent to comply with the Administrative Procedures Act (5 USC Section 551) which requires public notice on actions with major impact on visitor use patterns, park resources or those that are highly controversial in nature.

Another example is 36 CFR 1.6 *Permits*, which allows the Superintendent to require a permit for certain uses and activities in the park. This Section, however, requires that a list of activities needing a permit (and a fee schedule for the various types of permits) be maintained by the park.

A final example is 36 CFR 2.1(c)(1) *Preservation of Natural, Cultural and Archeological Resources*, which provides the Superintendent the authority to designate certain fruits, nuts or unoccupied seashells which may be gathered by hand for personal use. This activity can occur, however, only if a written determination shows that the allowed activity does not adversely affect park wildlife, the reproductive potential of a plant species or otherwise adversely affect park resources.

This compendium should be used in conjunction with 36 CFR, Sections 1-7 to more fully understand the regulations governing the use and enjoyment of all the areas of the National Park System.

A copy of 36 CFR can be purchased from the U.S. Government Printing Office at:

Superintendent of Documents
P.O. Box 371954
Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954

Or by calling: (202) 512-1800

The Code of Federal Regulations is also available on the internet at: <http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/#cfr>.

B. What laws and policies allow the Superintendent to develop this Compendium?

The NPS is granted broad statutory authority in 16 U.S.C. Section 1 *et seq.* (National Park Service Organic Act of 1916, as amended) to ". . . regulate the use of the Federal areas known as national parks, monuments, and reservations . . . by such means and measures as conform to the fundamental purposes of the said parks . . . which purpose is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment for future generations" (16 U.S.C. Section 1). In addition, the Organic Act allows the NPS, through the Secretary of the Interior, to "make and publish such rules and regulations as he may deem necessary or proper for the use and management of the parks, monuments, and reservations under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service" (16 U.S.C. Section 3).

In 1970, Congress amended the NPS Organic Act to clarify its intentions as to the overall mission of the NPS. Through the General Authorities Act of 1970 (16 U.S.C. Sections 1a1 - 1a8), Congress brought all areas administered by the NPS into one National Park System and directed the NPS to manage all areas under its administration consistent with the Organic Act of 1916.

In 1978, Congress amended the General Authorities Act of 1970 and reasserted Systemwide the high standard of protection defined in the original Organic Act by stating "Congress further reaffirms, declares, and directs that the promotion and regulation of the various areas of the National Park System, as defined by Section 1 of this Title, shall be consistent with and founded in the purpose established by Section 1 of this Title, to the common benefit of all people of the United States."

16 U.S.C. Section 1c defines the National Park System as ". . . any areas of land and water now or hereafter administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the National Park Service for park, monument, historic, parkway, recreational, or other purposes."

In addition to the above statutory authority, the Superintendent is also guided by established NPS policy as found in the *NPS Management Policies* (2001). As stated in this policy document, the primary responsibility of the NPS is to protect and preserve our national natural and cultural resources while providing for the enjoyment of these resources by visitors and other users, as long as use does not impair specific park resources or overall visitor experience. The appropriateness of any particular visitor use or recreational experience is resource based and will vary from park to park; therefore, a use or activity that is appropriate in one park area may not be appropriate in another. Each park Superintendent is directed to analyze overall park use and determine if any particular use is appropriate. Where conflict arises between use and resource protection, where the Superintendent has a basis to believe a resource is or would become impaired, then that Superintendent is obliged to place limitations on public use.

C. Does this Compendium comply with applicable Federal law and requirements?

The Superintendent's Compendium is not considered a significant rule requiring review by the Office of Management and Budget under Executive Order 12866. In addition, this Compendium does not have a significant economic effect on a number of small entities nor impose a significant cost on any local, state or tribal government or private organization and therefore does not fall under the requirements of either the Regulatory Flexibility Act or the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.

Nothing in this Compendium requires review as a water resources project in compliance with Section 7 of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

In compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, as amended, the NPS has determined that the implementation of this Compendium will not adversely affect any Federally listed threatened or endangered species, or designated critical habitat.

The actions and requirements described in this Compendium are found to be categorically excluded from compliance with the procedural requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in Department of the Interior (DOI) Guidelines 516 DM 6 and as such an Environmental Assessment will not be prepared.

D. How are the requirements of the Superintendent's Compendium developed?

As outlined above, the NPS has broad authority and responsibility to determine what types of uses and activities are appropriate in any particular National Park System area. The requirements of the Superintendent's Compendium are developed through an analysis and determination process. The decision criteria used during this process are:

- Is the use or activity consistent with the National Park Service Organic Act and NPS policy?
- Is the use or activity consistent and compatible with the park's enabling legislation, management objectives, and corresponding management plans?
- Will the use or activity damage or impair the park's protected natural and cultural resources and other protected values?
- Will the use or activity disturb or be in conflict with wildlife, vegetation, and environmental protection actions and values?
- Will the use or activity conflict with or be incompatible with traditional park uses and activities?
- Will the use or activity compromise employee or public safety?

E. Where does this Compendium apply?

The regulations contained in this Compendium apply to all persons entering, using, visiting or otherwise within the boundaries of Federally owned lands and waters administered by the NPS as part of the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway. This includes all water subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, including all navigable waters and areas within their ordinary reach (up to the ordinary high water mark) without regard to the ownership of the submerged lands or lowlands.

The regulations contained in this Compendium do not apply on Federally owned lands and waters administered by another department or agency, on lands owned by the States of Minnesota and Wisconsin and their local political subdivisions, on Indian tribal trust lands, or on private lands, except those lands which are administered by the NPS for public use purposes pursuant to the terms of a written agreement or lease.

The Federally managed portion of the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway includes the St. Croix River and environs from the north city limits of Stillwater, Minnesota upstream to the Gordon Dam near Gordon, Wisconsin and the Namekagon River and environs from its confluence with the St. Croix River near Riverside Landing, Wisconsin upstream to just north of the Namekagon Dam northeast of Cable, Wisconsin.

This Compendium does not apply in the State administered area of the Lower St. Croix National Scenic Riverway from the north city limits of Stillwater, Minnesota downstream along the St. Croix River to its confluence with the Mississippi River near Prescott, Wisconsin.

F. Who enforces the requirements of this Compendium?

Only NPS Law Enforcement Park Rangers can enforce the requirements of the United States Code and CFR Titles and this Superintendent's Compendium. However, many Federal laws and regulations have similar statutes found in State and local law. Many of the requirements of this Compendium complement existing State and local law and regulations which are also in effect within the park and enforced by State and local law enforcement officers.

G. Is there a penalty for not adhering to the requirements found in this Compendium?

A person who violates any provision of the regulations found in 36 CFR Parts 1-7, along with this compendium, is subject to a fine as provided by law (18 U.S.C. 3571) up to \$5,000 for individuals and \$10,000 for organizations, or by imprisonment not exceeding six months (18 U.S.C. 3559), or both, and shall be adjudged to pay all court costs associated with any court proceedings. You may receive a list of fines associated with any particular provision by contacting the Chief, Resource Protection, at the park address found below.

H. How do I provide comment on this Compendium?

The park welcomes comments about its programs and activities at any time. Comments specific to the 2005 Superintendent's Compendium will be accepted until May 30, 2005. Any comments received after May 30, although welcome, will not be used in the final decision-making process for the 2005 Compendium.

Any changes to this Compendium recommended by the public or others, and accepted by the Superintendent, will be incorporated into this compendium without further public comment and review.

Please send any written comments to:

Superintendent
St. Croix National Scenic Riverway
P.O. Box 708
St. Croix Falls, WI 54024
ATT: 2005 Superintendent's Compendium

Or e-mail your comments to: SACN_Ranger_Activities@nps.gov. Please title the subject box: 2005 Superintendent's Compendium.

I. When will the 2005 Compendium become effective?

The 2005 St. Croix NSR Superintendent's Compendium will become effective on Saturday, May 31, 2005 unless revised based upon timely comments and will remain in effect until superceded.

J. Is there anything else I need to know about this compendium?

Some of the terms used in this Compendium may be unclear to you. If you are unsure about a specific term please consult 36 CFR 1.4 *Definitions*. Terms that may be unique to this Compendium will be defined.

K. Where may I find a copy of this Compendium once it is approved?

The St. Croix Riverway Superintendent's Compendium may be found on the Riverway web site at:
www.nps.gov/sacn/trip/prohibited.html.

If you are not able to download a copy, call (715) 483-3284 extension 606 and we will mail you one.

PART 1 - GENERAL PROVISIONS

Are there any closures or public use limits imposed within the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway?

Section 1.5 - Closures and Public Use Limit

Section 1.5(a)(1)

General Public Use

All public use in any area closed by the Superintendent and identified with an official sign is prohibited. This includes all park maintenance facility compounds. These compounds and facilities, found on Polk County Road S near Osceola, Wisconsin, behind the Marshland Education Center on Highway 70 in Minnesota near Grantsburg, Wisconsin, behind the Namekagon Visitor Center in Trego, Wisconsin, and adjacent to the Headquarters building in St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin, may be entered on official business only.

The new Headquarters Building construction site, as delineated by the safety fence, and the canoe landing at Headquarters in St. Croix Falls is closed to all individuals except those associated with the construction project.

In addition, areas may be temporarily closed for a variety of reasons including site restoration, protection of at risk endangered or threatened animal and plant species, and protection of fragile cultural and historic sites.

Hunting

Hunting is prohibited within 500 feet of any building, administrative compound, or public use facility administered by the Riverway, within 100 feet of any designated campsite, or within 50 feet of any road. This includes discharging a firearm, shooting an arrow from a bow, or shooting a bolt from a crossbow towards any building, administrative compound, public use facility, or designated campsite or across any road. Shooting towards or across any designated public hiking trail is also prohibited.

In addition hunting is prohibited in the following areas:

All of LOSA Tracts 13-107, 13-113, 13-123, 13-124, and 13-133, located near the City of Stillwater, Minnesota and along Highway 95 in Stillwater Township, Washington County, Minnesota

Part of SACN Tract 49-160, located adjacent to Camp Sunrise in Chisago County, Minnesota

All of SACN Tract 54-108, located adjacent to St. Croix Wild River State Park in Chisago County, Minnesota

All of SACN Tract 56-126 west of Highway 16 adjacent to Wild Mountain Recreation Area in Chisago County, Minnesota

Deer season bow hunting only is allowed on LOSA Tracts 13-135 and 13-136 (known as Fairy Falls), which is located near the City of Stillwater, Minnesota and on the west side of Highway 95 in Stillwater Township, Washington County, Minnesota.

All areas closed to hunting will be posted.

Glass beverage containers

Glass beverage containers are prohibited on lands and waters within the Riverway.

Geocaching

Geocaching anywhere within the ordinary high water mark along the St. Croix River from Stillwater, MN north to the Gordon Dam in Wisconsin or along the Namekagon River from its confluence with the St. Croix River to the Namekagon Dam near Cable, Wisconsin, or on any lands owned or administered by the National Park Service is prohibited.

Paint-balling

The possession and/or use of a paint-ball gun, or similar device, are prohibited.

Do I need a permit to participate in certain activities?

Section 1.6 - Permits

Section 1.6(f)

The following activities on lands and waters owned or administered by the National Park Service require a written permit from the National Park Service:

Special Use Permits

Research specimen collection - 36 CFR 2.5(a)

Special events including all sporting events/races, pageants, contests, auto shows and boat regattas/races, company picnics, ceremonies of any kind or size, partisan political events and other similar activities - 36 CFR 2.50(a)

Public assemblies and meetings - 36 CFR 2.51(a)

Sale and distribution of printed materials - 36 CFR 2.52(a)

Grazing and agricultural use - 36 CFR 2.60(b)

Residing on park lands - 36 CFR 2.61(a)

Memorialization and scattering of human ashes - 36 CFR 2.62(b)

Vessel passing upstream of the High Bridge (mile 28.5) - 36 CFR 3.3 & 7.9 (c)(2)

Commercial Permits

Advertisements - 36 CFR 5.1

Business Operations, including canoe, kayak and tube outfitters, fishing guide services – 36 CFR 5.3

Commercial filming - 36 CFR 5.5(a)

Commercial photography - 36 CFR 5.5(b)

Construction activities including buildings, docks, roads, trails, paths, other ways, telephone lines, power lines, and other public and private utilities - 36 CFR 5.7

Engaging in any of the above activities without a permit is prohibited. Information regarding permits is available by calling 715-483-3284 extension 626.

PART 2 - RESOURCE PROTECTION, PUBLIC USE AND RECREATION

May I collect and keep natural, cultural and/or archeological resources found in the park?

Section 2.1 - Preservation of natural, cultural and archeological resources

The collection or possession of any cultural, historic, or archeological resource is prohibited.

Section 2.1(a)(4) - Firewood

Dead and down wood, including driftwood, may be collected for personal use in the park by park visitors as campfire fuel along and in shoreland areas. Firewood may not be gathered from any island or adjacent to any park administrative facility including any park offices, visitor centers, or maintenance facilities and compounds.

Residents occupying federal land within the park boundary under a use and occupancy lease or residing-in-the-park special use permit may collect dead and down wood from these lands in sufficient quantities for their use as heating fuel. Such wood may not be removed from the park.

Owners of lands within the park covered by a scenic, riverfront or conservation easement may collect dead and down wood from their land in sufficient quantities for their use as a heating fuel. Such wood may not be sold or removed from the park without written agreement of the Superintendent.

Cutting live or dead standing trees is prohibited except by written agreement of the Superintendent under the terms of a use and occupancy lease, residing-in-the-park special use permit, or scenic, riverfront or conservation easement.

Section 2.1(c)(1) - Collection and use of fruits, berries, nuts, or unoccupied mussel shells

The gathering by hand of edible fruits, berries and nuts for personal use or consumption on site is permitted. This includes the gathering of edible mushrooms or morels, but does not include the tapping of maple trees, or any other tree species, for sap.

The gathering and use of all live and dead mussels and empty mussel shells is prohibited.

Wild rice may be gathered and removed from the park in accordance with appropriate state law.

The subsistence gathering and removal of fruits, berries, nuts and other vegetation by Native American Indians for personal use is allowed in accordance with applicable treaties and tribal rules and regulations.

The collection of wildflowers is prohibited.

May I hunt in the park?

Section 2.2 - Wildlife Protection

Section 2.2(b)(1) - Hunting

Hunting in the park is allowed in accordance with applicable Federal, State, and Tribal laws and regulations, with the following special conditions:

Hunting is prohibited within 500 feet of any building, administrative compound, or public use facility administered by the Riverway, within 100 feet of any designated campsite, or within 50 feet of any road. This includes discharging a firearm, shooting an arrow from a bow, or shooting a bolt from a crossbow towards any building, administrative compound, public use facility, or designated campsite, across any

road or across the St. Croix or Namekagon Rivers. Shooting towards or across any major public use hiking trail is also prohibited. Building or hunting from a tree stand or other elevated device which is affixed to a tree by nails, spikes, lag-bolts, screws, or similar device is prohibited. The use of screw-in ladder steps is also prohibited.

Construction of a permanent hunting stand is prohibited. Temporary stands are allowed as long as they cause no damage to vegetation and are removed each day at the close of hunting hours.

Clearing vegetation or brush for a shooting lane is prohibited.

Section 2.2(b)(3) - Trapping

Trapping is prohibited on all Federally owned lands administered by the NPS, and within the water column up to the ordinary reach (ordinary high water mark) adjacent to Federally owned lands in Wisconsin, except by Native American Indians in accordance with applicable treaties and Federal, state and tribal laws, rules and regulations.

Trapping is allowed on private lands (with owner's permission) and on state and county public lands and adjacent waters in accordance with applicable state laws and regulations.

Section 2.2(e) - Shining

Wildlife viewing or hunting with any type of artificial light (including laser sights for bow or firearm) is prohibited in the park, except while shooting raccoon, fox or an unprotected species at the point of kill while hunting on foot in accordance with applicable state laws.

May I fish in the park?

Section 2.3 - Fishing

Fishing in the park is allowed in accordance with applicable Federal, state, and tribal laws and regulations, with the following special conditions:

Section 2.3(c) - Closures

The small pond located at park headquarters in St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin is closed to all fishing.

Section 2.3(d)(2) - Non-native bait

The use of non-native bait is permitted in accordance with applicable Federal, state and tribal laws and regulations. However, the dumping or release of live bait into the St. Croix or Namekagon Rivers is prohibited.

The use of live crayfish as bait on the St. Croix and Namekagon Rivers is prohibited.

Section 2.3(d)(6) - Digging for bait.

Digging for bait is prohibited, except on privately owned lands by the owner or with permission of the owner. The taking, possessing, transporting or using of live bait from the St. Croix and Namekagon Rivers is prohibited.

Section 2.3(d)(8) - Fishing from bridges

Fishing from any bridge is prohibited.

May I have weapons in the park?

Section 2.4

The possession of a weapon in the park is prohibited, except in association with hunting as allowed by Federal and state law.

The carrying of a concealed weapon, regardless of any state or local law or regulation, is prohibited at all times, except by duly authorized Federal, State and local law enforcement officers in the performance of their official duties.

Unloaded weapons may be possessed when they are rendered inoperable or are packed, cased or stored in a manner that will prevent their ready use.

Target practice or sighting in of weapons is prohibited.

May I camp in the park?

Section 2.10 - Camping and food storage

Camping is allowed in the park in accordance with the regulations found in 36 CFR 2.10 *Camping and food storage*, with the following special conditions:

Section 2.10(a) - Conditions

Camping along the St. Croix River from the Xcel (NSP) Dam at St. Croix Falls/Taylors Falls (mile 53) upstream to the Gordon Dam and along the entire Namekagon River is limited to designated sites only. Length of stay for any particular campsite is three nights; all campsites must be vacated by noon the day after the last night's stay. The maximum length of stay north of Nevers Dam on the St. Croix River and along the entire Namekagon River is 21 days between May 15 and September 15. The maximum length of stay between the St. Croix Falls Dam and Nevers Dam is 30 days between May 15 and September 15.

Howell Landing East and West are considered to be one site.

Walk-in tent camping is allowed where remote parking is provided and at the following major public use locations:

Namekagon River

- Phipps Landing
- Hayward Landing
- Earl Park
- Howell Landing

St. Croix River

- Riverside Landing
- Norway Point Landing
- Nelson Landing
- Sandrocks Cliffs
- Old Railroad Bridge Landing
- County O Landing
- Sunrise Ferry Landing

From the Xcel (NSP) dam at St. Croix Falls/Taylors Falls upstream to Nevers Dam, self-contained vessels may tie up for night anchorage anywhere along the shoreline but passengers must use on-board toilet facilities and may not build campfires or erect tents on the shore. The Sandy Cove designated campsite (mile 55.3) north of St. Croix Falls along the Ice Age/Indianhead trail and the Einer's Point designated campsite (mile 56.9) are "universal access" campsites, designed for both the disabled and able-bodied camper; travel to the Sandy Cove campsite by a manual or motorized wheelchair designed solely for and used by a mobility-impaired person is permitted. Camping where the primary means of travel to the site is by motor vehicle, ATV, bicycle, or other land-based mode of transportation is prohibited.

Camping from the Arcola Sandbar upstream to St. Croix Falls/Taylors Falls is permitted anywhere on NPS administered lands unless otherwise closed and/or posted. Camping from Stillwater, Minnesota upstream to the Arcola Sandbar is limited to islands only. Continuous length of stay for any campsite on Mile Long Island and Pillar Island is four nights; other sites or anchorage is seven nights. Maximum length of stay is 30 days between May 15 and September 15.

A designated site is a site marked with a sign and contains a steel fire ring or similar cooking fire device provided by the park, a primitive/backcountry toilet and in some locations a picnic table.

Camping is prohibited where posted as "*no camping*" or "*area closed for restoration*" and in the following locations:

From 1,200 feet south of Franconia Landing, Minnesota opposite Close Slough in Wisconsin upstream to St. Croix Falls/Taylors Falls, including all islands.

From 1,200 feet north and south of the Highway 243 Bridge at Osceola Landing, including the Osceola Picnic Area and all islands.

Between Dead Man's Slough, Wisconsin upstream to the southern tip of Greenburg Island, at William O'Brien State Park including all islands; this zone corresponds roughly to the area opposite and along the south to north city limits of Marine on St. Croix, Minnesota.

On Wild River Island, Tin Can Island, and Rock Island on the Indianhead Flowage.

May I picnic in the park?

Section 2.11 - Picnicking

Picnicking is allowed anywhere in the park except:

In areas closed to the public and posted in accordance with 36 CFR 1.5(a)(1).

On Federally owned lands under the terms of a use and occupancy lease or residing-in-the-park special use permit, without prior approval of the legal occupant.

The picnic shelters at the Osceola Landing Picnic Area may be reserved. A sign on the shelter will indicate when they are reserved and any other use by the public is prohibited. When not reserved they are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Group size is limited to 75 individuals

May I use an audio device, power saws, portable motors, generators, or other portable motor, engine or powered devices in the park?

Section 2.12 - Audio disturbances

Section 2.12(a)(1) - Audio devices

Radios, televisions, tape decks and other similar audio devices may be operated within the park as long as they meet standards listed in 36 CFR 2.12(a)(1) and do not interfere with the use of the area by other individuals. Excessive loudness is prohibited. These devices may not be operated during posted quiet hours, 10:00 p.m. - 6:00 a.m.

Section 2.12 - Power saws, generators

Operation of a chain saw, portable motor, generator or similar device within the park is prohibited except:

On Federally owned lands under the terms of a use and occupancy lease or residing-in-the-park special use permit by the legal occupant pursuant to the terms of the lease or permit

May I have a fire in the park?

Section 2.13 - Fires

Section 2.13(a)(1) - Conditions

Campfires are permitted at designated campsites only and must be contained in the provided fire ring. Cook-fires are permitted in designated picnic areas and must be contained in the provided grills, or in a portable grill or stove brought to the park by an individual. Constructing a rock-ring, or lighting a fire in a rock-ring, is prohibited.

Section 2.13(b) - Unattended fires

No fire shall be left unattended. All campfires and cook-fires will be out and cold before any site is permanently vacated or simply left for the day.

Section 2.13(c) - Fire closures

During periods of elevated fire danger open fires will be prohibited in accordance with appropriate State and local fire bans. Notice of any fire restriction will be posted at all visitor centers, landings, and other major public use facilities. Smoking will not be allowed in the backcountry during posted fire bans.

What do I do with my trash after I visit or use the park?

Section 2.14 - Sanitation and refuse

Section 2.14(a)(1) - Disposing of refuse

All refuse will be removed from the park by park users in accordance with the park's carry in, carry out policy. Leaving of refuse in the park is prohibited.

Section 2.14(a)(2) - Use of refuse containers, where provided

Small refuse containers are found at park visitor centers. These containers shall be used only for the disposal of incidental refuse associated with a visit to the visitor center.

Section 2.14(a)(7) - Disposal of fish remains

Fish remains shall be buried away from the shoreline or at least 50 feet from any developed campsite, landing, picnic area, or other developed facility.

Section 2.14(a)(9) - Disposal of human waste

Where a pit toilet is not provided or available, human waste must be buried at least 6 inches under ground and a minimum of 100 feet from any water source, high water mark, trail or other developed facility.

Section 2.14(b) - Wastes from boats

Dumping of human waste into any water source is prohibited. All human waste from boats must be disposed of at an approved marina waste dump station.

May I have pets in the park?

Section 2.15 - Pets

Section 2.15(a)(1) - Park buildings and other public use facilities

Pets are not allowed in any public building or office, except for service animals.

Pets are allowed in all other areas of the park as long as they have a collar with an identification tag, are vaccinated, have valid vaccination tags and are on a leash no longer than six feet in length.

Section 2.15(a)(5) - Excrement control

Persons in the park must promptly dispose of all pet excrement. Excrement must be gathered up and removed from the park, or buried at least six inches underground and 100 feet from any trail, campsite, building, picnic area, landing, or water source.

Section 2.15(e) - Government quarters and other Federally owned structures and lands used under the terms of a use and occupancy lease or residing-in-the-park special use permit

Pets are not allowed in government quarters, except by written permission of the Superintendent. When multiple occupancies of quarters exist, pets are prohibited.

Up to five pets are allowed on Federally owned lands and in Federally owned buildings under the terms of a use and occupancy lease or a residing-in-the-park special use permit by the legal occupant pursuant to the terms of the lease or permit.

May I ride a horse in the park?

Section 2.16 - Horse and pack animals

Section 2.16(b) - Designated areas and conditions

Day use of riding horses is permitted on the Sandrock Cliff Trail between the Highway 70 Landing and the Sandrock Cliff parking lot in Wisconsin. Horses are not allowed in the Sandrock Cliff camping or picnic area. These trails are not maintained to NPS standards for horseback riding use. All horseback use is at the risk of the owner/rider.

Horse use is prohibited on all other park trails in both Minnesota and Wisconsin, including the St. Croix Trail through the park in Minnesota.

The use of pack animals in the park is prohibited.

May I ride my snowmobile in the park?

Section 2.18 - Snowmobiles

Section 2.18(c) - Designated areas and closures

Snowmobile use is allowed on the frozen surface of the St. Croix River and on designated trails and river crossings in accordance with this Section and 36 CFR 7.9(a), and in accordance with applicable State and local laws and regulations, except:

On the St. Croix River from the Highway 243 Bridge at Osceola, Wisconsin north to the Xcel (NSP) Power Hydroelectric Dam at St. Croix Falls/Taylors Falls

On the St. Croix River from the Highway 35 Bridge at Riverside north to the Gordon Dam

Snowmobile use on the Namekagon River is prohibited except at designated river crossings or under the conditions of a special use permit.

Section 2.18(d)(4) - Speed

Snowmobile speed within the park is 45 mph unless otherwise posted. Speeds in excess of 45 mph may be permitted during authorized snowmobile races and events in accordance with the terms of a special use permit.

What other winter activities are available in the park?

Section 2.19 - Winter activities

All traditional winter activities including cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, ice fishing, and winter camping are allowed in the park. Camping will be in accordance with 36 CFR 2.10 and the special conditions found in this Compendium. Please note the special conditions found in Section 2.22 regarding the construction of ice fishing structures.

Snowshoeing on groomed cross-country ski trails is prohibited.

May I smoke in the park?

Section 2.21 - Smoking

Smoking in any park owned or leased building, vehicle, vessel or government residence is prohibited except:

In any building covered by a use and occupancy lease or residing-in-the-park special use permit with permission of the legal occupant.

Smoking is prohibited in the backcountry during posted fire bans.

May I leave an ice-fishing structure up longer than 24 hours?

May I park my car in the park for more than 24 hours?

Section 2.22 - Property

Section 2.22(a)(2) - Exceptions to the 24 hour abandoned property rule

No property shall be left in the park unattended for more than 24 hours except:

Structures used for fishing during ice fishing season may be left on the ice for more than 24 hours in accordance with applicable State laws and regulations.

Visitors camping in the park may leave their vehicles and boat trailers unattended for more than 24 hours at designated parking areas.

May I consume alcoholic beverages in the park?

Section 2.35 - Alcoholic Beverages

Section 2.35(a)(3) - Prohibited areas

The consumption of alcoholic beverages at the Osceola Day Use Picnic Area and Landing, in the area known as Fairy Falls (LOSA Tract 13-136) and in the area generally known as the Foster Property (LOSA Tracts 11-121, 123, 124, and 126) is prohibited.

The consumption of alcoholic beverages in any park owned or leased building, vehicle, or vessel is prohibited except:

The consumption of alcoholic beverages is allowed in any building covered by a use and occupancy lease or residing-in-the-park special use permit with permission of the legal occupant and in employee residences.

Are public assemblies, including demonstrations and other expressions of First Amendment rights allowed in the park?

Section 2.51 - Public Assemblies

Section 2.51(e) - Locations and conditions

Public assemblies and meetings may be held on the south side of the upper Headquarters parking lot. A non-fee special use permit is required for all public assemblies. Public assemblies and meetings are generally prohibited in all other areas of the park.

May I sell or distribute in the park printed materials in association with public assemblies and other First Amendment activities?

Section 2.52 - Sale and distribution of printed materials

Section 2.52(e) - Locations and conditions

The sale or distribution of printed materials in association with public assemblies and other First Amendment activities is allowed on the south side of the upper Headquarters parking lot. A non-fee special use permit is required for all public assemblies. The sale or distribution of printed materials in all other areas of the park is prohibited.

May I scatter human ashes in the park?

Section 2.62 - Memorialization

Section 2.62(b) - Conditions

The scattering of human ashes is permitted within the park under the terms and conditions of a special use permit. No ashes will be scattered from an airplane flying less than 2,000 feet above the park. No teeth or identifiable human bones shall be included in the ashes.

PART 3 - BOATING AND WATER USE ACTIVITIES

Do I need a permit to boat in the park?

Section 3.3 - Permits

Travel on the St. Croix River by vessel from the south upstream past the High Bridge (mile 28.5) towards the Xcel (NSP) dam at St. Croix Falls/Taylor Falls, except under the terms and conditions of a permit, is prohibited.

May I water-ski in the park?

Section 3.20 - Water-skiing

Section 3.20(a) - Designated areas, otherwise prohibited

Water-skiing is permitted in accordance with state and local laws and regulations in the following areas:

On the St. Croix River from the north city limits of Stillwater, Minnesota upstream to the Arcola Sandbar; from May 15 through September 15 water-skiing in this area is prohibited after noon on Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays. Water-skiing at any time in designated slow/no wake zones is prohibited. Traveling upstream past the High Bridge while skiing (Mile 28.5) is also prohibited.

On the St. Croix River from the Xcel (NSP) Hydroelectric Dam at St. Croix Falls/Taylor Falls upstream to the Nevers Dam Landing (Indianhead Flowage)

On the Namekagon River from the Trego Dam upstream to the Highway 53 Bridge (Trego Flowage)

On the Namekagon River from the Hayward Dam upstream to the Highway 77 bridge (Hayward Flowage)

May I swim in the Riverway?

Section 3.21 - Swimming and bathing

Section 3.21(a)(1) - Designated areas as closed to swimming

Swimming is allowed anywhere in the riverway except for the following.

Swimming is prohibited in the St. Croix River downstream from the Highway 8 bridge to the public boat launch at Wisconsin Interstate State Park.

Entering the St. Croix River from the shore along Minnesota Interstate State Park is also prohibited in accordance with Minnesota regulations.

ADVISORY - Swimming in the St. Croix River from the Xcel (NSP) Hydroelectric Dam at St. Croix Falls/Taylor Falls downstream to the Highway 8 Bridge is not recommended due to fluctuating water levels and strong currents.

Section 3.21(a)(2) - Swimming restrictions

Jumping or diving into the river from any vertical cliff, tree, swing-rope, bridge or other structure, except from private property with permission of the landowner, is prohibited.

May I use my personal watercraft anywhere in the park?

Section 3.24 - Regulation of personal watercraft (PWC)

Section 3.24(a) - Designated areas and closures

Personal watercraft use is prohibited on the St. Croix River from the north city limits of Stillwater, MN north to Gordon Dam and on the Namekagon River from its confluence near Riverside, WI east to the Namekagon Dam near Cable, WI.

PART 4 - VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC SAFETY

May I bicycle in the park?

Section 4.30 - Bicycles

Bicycles and other non-motorized means of conveyance are permitted on established park roads and parking lots in accordance with applicable State and local laws and regulations. Operation of a bicycle or other similar non-motorized conveyance on park trails except under the terms of a Special Use Permit is prohibited.

PART 7 - SPECIAL REGULATIONS, AREAS OF THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM

Are there any special regulations pertaining specifically to the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway that I need to be aware of?

Regulations specific to any particular National Park System area are found in 36 CFR Part 7. The St. Croix National Scenic Riverway has three specific regulations found in 36 CFR Part 7, Section 7.9. These regulations deal with snowmobiling - 7.9(a), fishing - 7.9(b), and the control of vessel and boat trailer borne exotic species - 7.9(c). Specific conditions and requirements associated with these activities are outlined here and in other sections described above.

Section 7.9(a) - Snowmobiles

Snowmobile use is allowed on the frozen surface of the St. Croix River and on designated trails and river crossings in accordance with this Section and 36 CFR 2.18, and in accordance with applicable non-conflicting State and local laws and regulations, except:

On the St. Croix River from the Highway 243 Bridge at Osceola, Wisconsin north to the Xcel (NSP) Hydroelectric Dam at St. Croix Falls/Taylors Falls

On the St. Croix River from the Highway 35 Bridge at Riverside north to the Gordon Dam

Snowmobile use on the Namekagon River is prohibited except at designated river crossings or under the conditions of a special use permit.

Snowmobile speed within the park is 45 mph unless otherwise posted. Speeds in excess of 45 mph may be permitted during authorized snowmobile races and events in accordance with the terms of a written special use permit.

Section 7.9(b) - Fishing

Fishing in the park is allowed in accordance with this Section and 36 CFR 2.3, and in accordance with applicable Federal, state, and tribal laws and regulations, with the following special conditions:

The small pond located at park headquarters in St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin is closed to all fishing.

The use of non-native bait is permitted in accordance with applicable Federal, state and tribal laws and regulations. The use of live crayfish as bait is prohibited.

Fishing from any bridge is prohibited.

Structures used for fishing during ice fishing season may be left on the ice for more than 24 hours in accordance with applicable State laws and regulations.

Section 7.9(c) - Vessels

Travel on the St. Croix River from the south by vessel upstream past the High Bridge (mile 28.5) towards the Xcel (NSP) dam at St. Croix Falls/Taylor Falls, except under the terms and conditions of a permit, is prohibited.